

Marna Miller
Falmouth
LD 1666

Testimony in Favor of LD 1666

To: The Honorable Craig Hickman, the Honorable Laura Supica, and Members of the Joint Standing Committee of Veterans and Legal Affairs

Dear Senator Hickman, Representative Supica, and members of the Joint Standing Committee of Veterans and Legal Affairs:

My name is Marna Miller. I am a resident of Falmouth, ME. I am writing in support of LD 1666: An Act to Include in the Ranked-Choice Election Method for General and Special Elections the Offices of Governor, State Senator and State Representative and to Make Other Related Changes, which is being discussed at a public hearing on Thursday, April 24, 2025 in the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee.

I very much appreciated being able to use ranked-choice voting when casting my ballot for president and senator in the 2020 election. In previous elections, when I supported a candidate outside the two major parties, I always had to decide whether to vote my conscience or effectively throw away my vote. In 2020, because of ranked-choice voting, no such calculation had to be made. I was able to decide who I supported and then vote for that person, regardless of whether I thought they stood a good chance of winning or not.

Isn't that the point of elections, to allow everyone to cast their vote for the candidate they genuinely support? Ranked choice voting quiets the "electability" game we voters all play in our heads as we walk into the polls.

I found the process of voting with a ranked-choice system really easy too. My family uses a ranked-choice system all the time when making decisions, for example when settling our order before phoning it in to the pizza place: "I want half cheese and half Hawaiian (first choice), but if they won't do halves, I want all cheese (second choice)." Easy as pie!

I hope the Committee will support LD 1666. I would like to be able to use ranked-choice voting when casting my ballot for governor and state legislators too.

Thank you,
Marna Miller
Falmouth, ME